

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method for managing transactions and settlements;
~~performed by a computer network system including~~ by using:

a supplier system [[7]] used by a supplier [[5]] ~~for issuing electronic invoices~~ who issues an invoice;

a buyer system [[3]] used by a buyer [[(1)]] who receives the invoice;

a finance system ~~(13, 15 and 17)~~ which has a bank account of the supplier and a bank account of the supplier (5) and a buyer bank account of the buyer [[(1)]], and performs deposit/withdrawal processing from ~~[[of]]~~ the bank account of said buyer to the bank account of said supplier; and

a server ~~system (25, 27 and 29)~~ communicably which is connected communicably with said supplier system [[(7)]], said buyer system ~~[[3)]]~~, and ~~the finance~~ said banking system ~~(13, 15 and 17)~~, ~~characterized in comprising the steps that~~ via a communication network,

wherein the method comprises steps in which:

the server ~~system (25 (27 and 29))~~ receives and registers ~~(1-2)~~, from said supplier system, an electronic invoice on which a unique identification code for identifying said invoice is written by said supplier system;

said server registers said received electronic invoice in a database;

the server transmits, to said buyer system, a GUI screen for showing contents of said electronic invoice registered in said database and for allowing said buyer to approve the contents of said electronic invoice, and causes the buyer system to display the GUI screen;

said server or buyer system automatically creates a payment request telegraphic message having said unique identification code written on said registered electronic invoice, on the basis of said registered electronic invoice approved by said buyer, in response to that said buyer has approved the contents of said electronic invoice displayed on said GUI screen by said buyer system, and then transmits the payment request telegraphic message to said finance system;

upon reception of the payment request telegraphic message having said unique identification code, said finance system performs the deposit/withdrawal processing for a payment of the electronic invoice having said unique identification code; and

said finance system transmits, to said server or said supplier system, an electronic deposit/withdrawal detailed statement describing that a deposit is made to the bank account of said supplier, the electronic deposit/withdrawal detailed statement having said unique identification code,

whereby said server or said supplier is enabled to specify which one is the paid electronic invoice, by means of said unique identification code possessed by the electronic deposit/withdrawal detailed statement which is received from said finance system.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in~~
further comprising the step ~~[[that]~~ in which:

when the supplier system receives the electronic deposit/withdrawal detailed statement, the supplier system automatically searches an electronic invoice having the unique identification code possessed by the deposit/withdrawal detailed statement, from among a plurality of electronic invoices held by the supplier system, and reconciles the searched electronic invoice.

Claims 3-10 (canceled)

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A server in a management system for transactions and settlements, comprising:

a supplier system used by a supplier who issues an invoice;

a buyer system used by a buyer who receives the invoice;

a finance system which manages a bank account of the supplier and a bank account of the buyer, and performs deposit/withdrawal processing from the bank account of said buyer to the bank account of said supplier; and

a server which is connected communicably with said supplier system, said buyer system, and said finance system via a communication network,

wherein once said finance system receives a payment request telegraphic message for an electronic invoice, the payment request telegraphic message having an identification code, said

finance system reports to the server that a withdrawal is made from the bank account of the buyer through the deposit/withdrawal processing, performs the deposit/withdrawal processing for a payment of said electronic invoice, and is capable of transmitting an electronic deposit/withdrawal detailed statement having said identification code written on the payment request telegraphic message to said server or said supplier system,

said server comprising:

means for receiving, from said supplier system, an electronic invoice on which a unique identification code for identifying said electronic invoice is written by said supplier system;

means for registering said received electronic invoice in a database;

means for transmitting, to said buyer system, a GUI screen for showing contents of said electronic invoice registered in said database and for allowing said buyer to approve the contents of said electronic invoice, and causing the buyer system to display the GUI screen; and

means for automatically creating a payment request telegraphic message having said unique identification code written on said registered electronic invoice, on the basis of said registered electronic invoice approved by said buyer, in response to that said buyer has approved the contents of said electronic invoice on said GUI screen displayed by said buyer system, and then transmitting the payment request telegraphic message to said finance system.

Claims 12-13 (canceled).

Claim 14. (New): The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps in which:

said server registers a status of said registered electronic invoice in a database;

said finance system notifies said server of a withdrawal from the bank account of said buyer by means of said deposit/withdrawal processing;

said server updates the status of said electronic invoice managed in said database to payment request in progress, when said payment request telegraphic message is transmitted to said finance system or when said finance system notifies of a withdrawal from the bank account of said buyer by said deposit/withdrawal processing; and

said server notifies said supplier system of the updated status.

Claim 15 (New): The method according to claim 14, further comprising the step in which:

the server updates the status of the electronic invoice managed in said database to an opened status, when transmitting, to said buyer system, said GUI screen showing the contents of said electronic invoice, and causing said buyer system to display said GUI screen.

Claim 16 (New): The method according to claim 14, further comprising:
a calendar GUI preparation step in which said server prepares a calendar GUI screen displaying a calendar;

an invoice mark pasting step in which said server automatically pastes a mark indicating the electronic invoice registered in said database and the status of the electronic invoice managed in said database, in a space for a date of receipt of said electronic invoice, on the calendar of said GUI screen;

a calendar GUI supplying step in which said server supplies said calendar GUI screen that has the mark of said electronic invoice and the status thereof pasted thereon, to said buyer system, and causes said buyer system to display said calendar GUI screen; and

a mark changing step in which said server changes display of the mark pasted on said calendar to display showing the status obtained after the change, in response to a change of the status managed in said database for the electronic invoice indicated by the mark.